GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2966
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2002
USE OF FORGED WHEELSETS
PRABHUNATH SINGH

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether forged wheelsets have been used in the wagon building when the CAG asked for the file No.96/RS(B)/951/4 (CAG Report No.9 of 1999) −page (184185) for audit scrutiny was not made available to the audit;

(b) if so, whether the matter of using forged wheelsets for imported origin was enquired;

(c) if so, the outcome thereof;

(d) the reasons for not producing the file when asked for by audit; and

(e) the measures taken to bring to book the guilty railway officials and to tone up the railway administration in the field of getting material?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL)

(a) It is true that in the past forged wheelsets of imported origin were also used in the wagon building as a balancing requirement when the capacity of Wheel & Axle Plant, Bangalore (WAP) was not adequate. The last contract for forged wheelsets was placed in year 1996. Presently WAP are in a position o meet full requirements of wheelsets and hence no further purchase of forged wheelsets has been made by Indian Railways. It is not true that File No.96/RS(B)/951/4 was not madeavailable to audit for scrutiny. The file was in fact made available to Audit in August'98. Since this file was too voluminous, Audit desired that only relevant papers dealing with the instructions may be made available for audit scrutiny. Accordingly, a part file was constituted and the same was made available to them as per their desire. Subsequently, as advised by Audit, main file was also sent to them on 29.10.98, which remained with Audit till 01.3.2002.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) to (e) Do not arise.